

The Baptist Examiner

The Paper With a National Circulation

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them." (Isa. 8:20).

Devoted to Evangelism, Missions and Bible Doctrines.

"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel!"

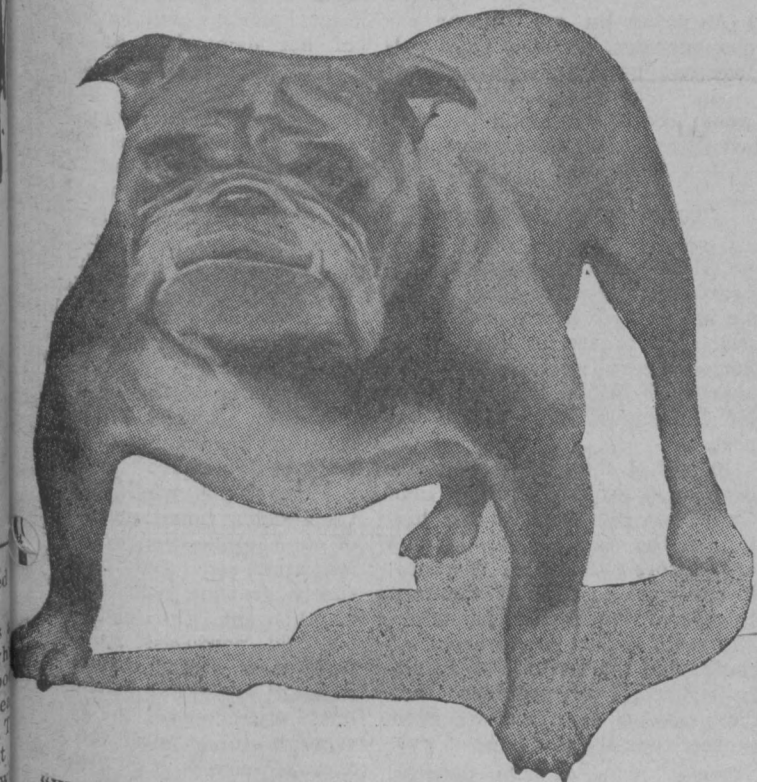
WHOLE NO. 417

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1946

VOLUME 15, NO. 13

Marriage, Divorce, And Immorality As Prophesied For The Last Days

Noted For Tenacity ...



"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit ye like men, be strong."—Cor. 16:13.
 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."—Eph. 6:13.
 "Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved."—Phil. 4:1.

What Does The Bible Really Teach Concerning Apostasy And Falling?

ROY MASON
Tampa, Florida

The answer to the above question is YES. It is commonly taught that a saved person may apostatize, or "fall from grace" and be lost. This the Bible DOES NOT teach. If such could happen, then "eternal life" would be a misnomer, election and predestination would be meaningless, the promise of Christ "they shall never perish" would be untrue, and the reborn soul would have to become "unborn"—an impossibility. Besides this would make salvation to be partly of works. But there is an apostasy that is

taught in the New Testament. It is taught that there shall be a great apostasy or "FALLING AWAY" (2 Thes. 2:3) on the part of churches and professing Christians, as the age comes to a close. This does not mean that all true churches shall go out of existence for Jesus in Matt. 16:18 promised the perpetuity of the church which he established. But the teaching is that in the ranks of professing Christians there shall be a great and devastating departure from the truth. We seem to be witnessing such a departure in this very day. This "falling away" shall consist in part, in the following characteristics:

Denial of the deity of Christ and of Blood redemption. (See I John 4:1-3)

EVERY MAN'S EPITAPH

"For what is your life?" This question is asked by James in chapter 4 and verse 14. The following is given by the materialistic mind:
 Here lies the body of Every Man who dies on any day in any month of any year, B. C. or A. D. Aged three score years and ten. During his sojourn on this earth, what follows is to be recorded of him:
 He ate 150 prime head of cattle, 225 lambs, 26 sheep, 210 hogs, 2,400 chickens, 26 acres of wheat, 50 acres of sundry fruits of field.
 He drank of sundry drinks sufficient to make a great lake.
 And, in warming himself and preparing his food, he used substance of 150 great trees.
 Moreover, there is this further (Continued On Page Four)

Dan Filbert

When asked about the subject of divorce, our Lord said, "In the beginning, it was not so." In the beginning, there was no such thing as divorce. God established the system of monogamous marriage — of the union of one man and one woman "until death do them part."

The pre-flood civilization was marked by man-ordained perversions and violations of the Divine marital system. There was much "marrying" and "giving in marriage," even as there is today. A few years ago, a celebrated movie star was entertained at the White House. At the time, I was engaged in full-time newspaper work in the Capitol. In writing an article about this 22-year-old star, who had been married and divorced more than a half-dozen times, I referred to her as frequently divorced; my city editor softened the language by making it read, "much-married."

The antediluvians, also, were much-married and much-divorced. They were quite as modern as the Hollywoodites in that respect. Marital mates in the movie colony are changed with the seasons — summer, fall, spring, and winter. Actors blossom out with new wives as regularly as they come forth with new model motor cars! Actresses change husbands as they change their coiffures and the color of their hair!

The "days of Noah," of course, witnessed the open practice of polygamy. There are really two kinds of polygamy: simultaneous and successive. Under our free-and-easy divorce laws, a man may have as many wives as he wishes, but he must take them one at a time! Even this slight limitation upon the changing of marital mates was swept away in the days of Noah. There was rampant polygamy of both kinds — simultaneous and successive.

In my book, Mormonism Unmasked in the Light of Bible Prophecy, I show how the movement is underway to legalize such (Continued on page four)

Mused Uncle Mose

"Ain't no chu'ch membah goin' to git to de Promis' Lan' ef he keep foolin' long wid de 'gyp-tians."

-- The First Baptist Pulpit --

"Christ's Return"

"For the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." — James 5:8.

I am satisfied at the very outset of my message that everyone will agree that this world is in a terrible condition. Sometimes as I preach, there appears a look of incredulity on your faces and one of perhaps even doubt as to the truthfulness of my statements. However, I'm sure that there is not one present but what will agree that the nations of this world are in a terrible plight

today. In fact, so great is that plight that no one knows what to expect next.

I think there is a very significant text which characterizes the day in which we live. It is the words of Jesus as found in Luke 21:25-28. Listen:

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after

those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

In these verses Jesus speaks of the time on earth when there shall be distress of nations with perplexity — a time when men's (Continued On Page Two)

Almost

J. M. CARLSON

The waves may almost swamp the boat
 I sail upon the sea,
 But it will never be destroyed
 Because Christ sails with me.
 The wind may almost wreck my house,
 And fill my soul with fear;
 But all its fury is in vain
 Because my Lord is near.

The darkness almost hides the light
 That shines from Him above;
 But tho I cannot see thru the clouds
 I rest in His great love.
 When sin almost deceives my heart,
 In power doth abound.
 I know He'll keep and guard my way,
 Grace will in Him be found.

When almost all my strength is gone,
 My weakness I bewail,
 I find He comes in all His might
 To show He cannot fail.
 When fears almost upset my calm,
 And doubts I must withstand,
 A blessed peace is mine to know
 I'm safe in Jesus' hand.

—Radio Echoes

If The Work Of The Holy Spirit Is Not Precious; Then By-Pass This Article

By A. M. Hawley

HE SHEDS ABROAD GOD'S LOVE IN THE HEART. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us. Rom. 5:5. The epistle to the Romans contains a full unfolding and exposition of the gospel of God. Romans 1:1: "Paul a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God." The verse just quoted gives the first mention of the Spirit in it, (except 1:4), "And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead." This is the logical place to begin in our consideration of the Spirit's work in the Christian. He

it is who communicated to the heart of the sinner that wonderful love which has dwelt in the heart of God toward him from all eternity. Jer. 31:3, "The Lord hath appeared of old unto thee, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore, with loving kindness have I drawn thee."

It is by the Spirit that a discovery is made to us of God's love; that which is revealed in the Scriptures, He seals to our personal consciousness.

No sinner has any real sense of the eternal and redeeming love of God for himself until it is actualized. (Continued on Page Two)

AMUSEMENT-MAD

If ever there were a time when men and women ought to be serious, this is the day; and yet people today are pleasure mad. You find people all over the land turning away from the things of God and turning to fables or devoting themselves to pleasure in its most extravagant forms—anything to give them a new sensation, a new amusement.

Did you ever think of that word "amusement?" David said, "While I was musing the fire burned." "Muse" means "to think." But in "amuse," the "a" is the negative; so "amuse" means "to not think" — and the Devil is busy today with all kinds of devices to keep men from thinking. If men think, there is some hope of their salvation! — H. A. Ironside, in Lamp of Prophecy.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER

JOHN R. GILPIN-EDITOR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editorial Department, RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, where communications should be sent for publication.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

Per Year in Advance.....50c

(Domestic and Foreign)

Send Remittances to Russell, Ky.

Entered as second-class matter May 31, 1941, in the post office at Russell, Kentucky, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every State and many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expiration unless renewed or special arrangements are made for their continuation.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from page one)
tually communicated by the Spirit. To the unregenerate, Christ said, "But I know you, that you have not the love of God in you." John 5:42. In his unconverted state, the sinner dreaded God, feeling that He was against him. Yes, all men naturally hate God. Romans 8:7, "The carnal mind is enmity against God." It is only when we see His love to us in Christ, by the Comforter, that we repent and love Him. "We love him because he first loved us." I John 4:19. "The Lord thy God will circumcise thy heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God." Deut. 30:6. Sinners may hear of the love of God ten thousand times, yet they never will love Him until the Holy Spirit enters their hearts, and love to Him is produced by the truth through the Spirit. I Cor. 2:10, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God."

HE ASSURES US THAT THE WORD IS GOD'S. "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God: that we might know the things that are freely given us of God." I Cor. 2:12. In verse 4, the apostle reminded the Corinthians that when he first preached unto them, it "was not with enticing words of man's wisdom," (vain philosophy), "but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." That is, with a God-given message. And this was, "That their faith should not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God." Verse 5. That which Paul had preached was "the wisdom of God in a mystery," namely "the hidden (counsels of grace) which God ordained before the world unto our glory." I Cor. 2:7. These counsels of grace, this electing love, which was to be accomplished through redemption, "Which none of the princes of this world knew." I Cor. 2:8. "But all these things are revealed unto us by His Spirit." I Cor. 2:10.

HE IS THOROUGHLY COGNIZANT OF, AND CONVERSANT WITH THE SECRET COUNSEL OF THE ETERNAL THREE IN THE "EVERLASTING COVENANT." In I Cor. 2:11, the apostle points out that only the human spirit is capable of understanding human things; so Divine things are only known by the Divine Spirit. And we Christians have received, "Not the spirit of the world." That is a mere reasoning faculty, but, "The Spirit which is of God." The Comforter given us, and is in us, that we might know the things

freely given us of God. It is the Holy Spirit who works in the soul of the Christian a firm persuasion and unshakable assurance that the Scripture is the Word of God. The same Spirit who moved men to write them, must work in the heart a consciousness that they are God's Word. It is by the Spirit that we are established in the faith. 2 Cor. 1:21, "Now he which establisheth us with you is Christ, and hath anointed us, is God."

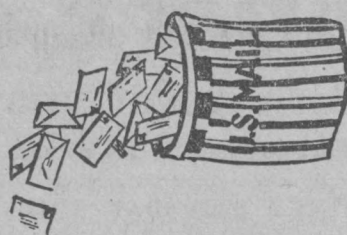
HE DIRECTS OUR WORK.

This is the fulfillment of one of the many promises God has given unto His people. Ezek. 36:27, "And I will put My Spirit in you, and cause you to walk in My statutes and ye shall keep My judgments." Jer. 10:23, "O Lord, I know that the way is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Looked at according to the flesh, the old man is averse to those paths. Looked at according to the Spirit, the new man, the Christian, is but a babe in Christ, and needs a guide and supporter. Psalms 23:3, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake." Rom. 8:14, "As many as are lead by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (1) He leads to Christ. (2) He leads to the throne of grace. (3) He leads to practical godliness. (4) He leads ultimately to glory. (5) He leads by enlightening the understanding. (6) He leads by strengthening the desires of the new man. (7) He leads by inclining the will. It is the Spirit of God who keeps us in the narrow way, and delivers from the destructive snares of Satan.

HE PROMPTS ALL TRUE OBEDIENCE. Christians have no more vital godliness than what the Holy Spirit has wrought in them. We have no more faith than what the Holy Spirit has imparted unto us. We have no more hope and love than what He has given. This is a very humble confession to make, and proud flesh resents it. Yet the Word of God makes it very plain. I Cor. 15:10, "By the grace of God I am what I am." John 15:5, "For without me ye can do nothing." The Christian stands in daily need of the Spirit's guidance. "He works in us both to will and to do his own good pleasure."

HE PRODUCES ALL SPIRITUAL FRUIT. Hosea 14:8, God said of old, "From me is thy fruit found." Spiritual fruit is neither produced by, neither does it issue from the natural man. It is produced by the Holy Spirit and issues from the new man. The leading passage found on fruit bearing is found in John 15:1-8. Our Lord is teaching by a figure of a vine, and shows the outcome of abiding in Him, which is one of the New Testament terms for intimate communion with Him. Communion with Christ is produced and sustained by the Holy Spirit who is here to glorify Christ. The result of such communion and faith must be fruitful. That is "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, temperance," and in Gal. 5:22, these are expressly called the fruit of the Spirit.

HE CONFORMS US TO CHRIST. Here again the only instrument that He uses is the written Word. He takes the things of Christ and shows them unto us. John 16:10-15, He opens our understanding. He shines upon the sacred page, so that in His light we have light. Psalms 36:9, "For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light." 2 Cor. 3:18, "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by



Lakeside, Calif.

Yes, I feel interested in your welfare and people have to be reminded of their duty. However, I cannot read your paper more than 15 minutes at a time, for my eyes are almost gone as I am almost 85 and am just as deaf as I am blind, but I would rather wear out than to rust out. I am sending you 20 dollars. My heart is with your work.

PETER W. CRUM.

Worthington, Minn.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

My pastor had the Baptist Examiner sent to me as a gift. It has been a great joy to us because of its soundness in the Scriptures.

Please send your paper to us. The balance of the check (\$10.00) is to help in the good work.

Yours truly,

RALPH W. JOHNSON.

Manatee, Fla.

Dear Bro. Gilpin:

I am just a poor widow woman and am crippled besides. I fell a year ago this month and broke the right hip bone and I have other ailments to go along with being crippled but through it all I am very thankful to my dear Lord for his love and mercy.

Our Debt

Brother Gilpin is out of town as this issue goes to press and figures as to our debt are not available. At the printing of the last issue, the debt stood at \$1051.50.

A full report will be given in the next issue of the paper. We will appreciate hearing from you before then.

the Spirit of the Lord."

HE INSPIRES ALL TRUE PRAYER. Romans 8:26, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." Hosea 7:14, "They have not cried unto me with their hearts." The disciples said, "Lord, teach us how to pray." No answered prayer unless the Holy Spirit prompts it. Jude 20, "Praying in the Holy Spirit."

HE PRESERVES THE CHRISTIAN. We cannot cry, "Abba Father," except by the Holy Spirit. Rom. 8:15. We cannot know our Divine sonship. Rom. 8:16, "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." We cannot hope apart from Him. Gal. 5:5, "For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith." We cannot mortify sin apart from Him. Rom. 8:13, "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

The responsibility of the Christian is to recognize that he is indwelt by the Spirit. Rom. 8:9, "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." The body of the Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit. I (Continued On Page Four)

Yes, I can and do pray for you and all of His true workers in the field of labor for Him. I appreciate each copy of your paper. They are rich and full of the truth. I earnestly hope and pray that your secretary will soon be entirely well and back to help you. The work you and several other ministers I know are doing is what the world needs and truly I want to do all I can to help publish the good news of our Saviour to a lost and ruined people.

MRS. W. H. JORDAN.

A writer in one of our exchanges says, "A lot of child welfare can be done with a razor strop." But he doesn't say on whom the strop should be used, whether on the child or its daddy.

"CHRIST'S RETURN"

(Continued from Page One)

hearts fail them for fear. Surely we are in such a day now. Upon this earth there is distress of nations, there is perplexity, men's hearts are failing them for fear. No one knows just what to expect.

In fact, I think that the problems of today are greater than they have ever been in the history of the world. A few months ago, before the coming of peace, if one were to look at war-torn Europe or the Pacific, he naturally realized that grave problems confronted the world. Yet, frankly, beloved, I am convinced that the problems of peace are even greater than the problems of war.

There is a growing distress among the allied nations which forebodes trouble for the future. Already the UNO is manifesting its weakness and bids fair to become the successor to the League of Nations which in reality proved to be a "league of notions" — and silly notions at that. Already troubles within the ranks of the UNO reveal how powerless that organization is. This in itself leads us to realize that what we need today is not UNO but HIM. Surely we need Him — we need the Lord Jesus to return to this earth to solve the problems of this old sinful world.

Even in America today we are passing through a revolution. Of course, it isn't the kind of revolution they have in Spain or Mexico or in the South American countries where when a man wishes a change of government, he gathers with him a handful of gorilla rebels and with rifles and tommy guns creates a riot, overthrows the government, and starts a new political order. We are not having that kind of revolution in America. In the main, ours is bloodless, and yet it is a revolution just the same. I speak of this economic revolution which for the past four months has practically paralyzed reconversion and has virtually stifled all the industries of America. Practically every group of workers have waged a strike of some type or other, and now we are threatened with the annual miner's strike, which unless settled within thirty days, will completely paralyze the nation.

I look at these industrial events in the light of the chapter from whence our text is taken. In fact, whenever I read this 5th chapter of James I am reminded that we are living today in the light of this chapter. It pictures the age old conflict between capital and labor. Such a conflict between capital and labor as we have had in the last few months has never been seen in all the ages of the world. James tells us in the words of our text when such

takes place, we can know coming of the Lord draw nigh."

Then again, to notice the troubles of this world, consider verbal conflict which has arisen between Great Britain the one hand and Russia on the other, which forbodes a war self in the not too distant future. Everyone knows that Russia has desired a southern port for years, and now greedily and lustfully Russia demanding the oil of Iran, soon doubtlessly will demand southern seaport which makes that Palestine will be the center of her demands. Anyone reads Ezekiel 38 and 39 know that it is positively prophesied that a conflict shall come between Great Britain on the one hand and Russia on the other, and that battle shall be fought in the land of Palestine, which will be terminated by the return of Lord. Surely in the light of current events of Russia's demands today and of her close with England over political issues — surely these current events when viewed in the light of Scripture (Ezekiel 38, 39) indicate that the coming of our Lord can't be far away.

Then if you would but note the terrible conditions within of our churches you would be immediately convinced that we are surely drawing near to the end of this age. Our churches, but cold, powerless, spiritual refrigerators. Modernism rampant in the pulpit, and worldliness characterizes the pew. The average sinner might go to an average church for years and never hear enough gospel in that period of time to save his soul.

Surely in the light of the facts — the discord within UNO, the industrial revolution through which we are passing, the current events concerning Russia in the light of Ezekiel 38, 39, and the spiritual condition of America, — all of this but indicate that this world is in a terrible state of affairs, which affairs are beyond the brain of man both for analysis and for solution.

Every scheme has been tried in behalf of the nations of the world, and yet after all schemes have been tried, the difficulties are worse, the debts greater, and the problems still unsolved. Every form of government from an absolute monarchy to an absolute socialism has been tried, and not one has proven a success. Even Townsend, who appeared to me as the Moses of this generation is now discredited. Many Democrats, of which party Mr. Townsend was a member, and many Republicans considered his plan would solve the world's problems and that Townsend himself was the "Moses" of this era to lead the world out of the economic, industrial and political wilderness unto the promised land. Actually Mr. Townsend did God in his promises. Have you ever noticed what God promised? Listen:

"But my God shall supply your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19.

In this, God promises to supply all our needs. He has promised to supply our wants and desires nor to give us any uries for which we have no pay. Thus Mr. Townsend in his promises actually outdid God, and this plan were tried, it too would be found to be an absolute failure like all the balance of the plans of the leaders of this world.

(Continued on page three)

"CHRIST'S RETURN"

(Continued from page two)

To be frank, the world's leaders and thinkers are about to admit that there is no way out. Even Mr. Truman has already thrown up his hands to admit defeat and to confess that the problems of this generation are beyond him. Of recent date he called upon the head of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America to assist him in spiritual matters relating to the government. Mr. Truman has made grave blunders and serious mistakes since going into office. His morals are enough to cause all loyal honest Baptists to hang their heads in shame in view of the fact he claims to be a Baptist. Yet, doubtlessly his gravest mistake has been in calling upon this modernistic religious leader who denies the diety, the virgin birth, blood atonement, resurrection of Jesus Christ, as well as the verbal inspiration of the Scriptures. When Mr. Truman called upon this modernist for spiritual advice, he definitely sank lower in the opinion of Bible-minded Christians than by any other act since he went into office.

Yet even this act on the part of Mr. Truman was an admission that he could not find the way out. If the brain trust of America and the wise men and advisers of other nations would but face squarely their problems, each of them would admit that there is no way out as to these earthly problems.

The only person who has any confidence as to the future and who knows where he is going, is the true child of God who has some Scriptural knowledge of the events that are out before us.

A man paused by the roadside to ask a boy a direction to a certain town. When asked, the boy replied that he didn't know. He asked him about another town in the opposite direction and the boy replied again in the negative. It was thus with two other men. Finally, the man said, "You don't know much do you?" To this the boy replied, "No, but I know I ain't lost." Certainly this is like the true child of God. The truly redeemed child of God may not know the answer to this world's economic ills, but he is not lost; he knows that Jesus is coming and that some day he is going up.

I say then, beloved, that the hope of this world is not in its legislators, its politicians, and its statesmen. Our hope is not in our educators nor in labor unions. Our hope is not in religion. Our hope is not in the philosophies of this world. Rather, our hope is in the Lord Jesus, and particularly in His return to this earth.

ALL THIS IS BUT TO SAY THAT JESUS IS COMING AGAIN FOR HIS OWN. There is no truth more forcefully taught in all the Word of God than the truth of His second coming. Listen:

"And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." — Mark 14:62.

Here's a verse that tells us that He is coming. Our hope then is in His coming. We are deceiving ourselves in expecting conditions to be better so far as this world is concerned without Him, any abiding peace, security, and assurance until the Prince of Peace, the Lord Jesus comes.

That which irritated and angered the high priest at the time

Jesus was on trial for His life was the fact that Jesus spoke of His second advent. He said:

"Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." — Matthew 26:24.

Here's a statement that Jesus is coming again. He is coming in the clouds. Every time I see a big white fleecy cloud floating overhead, I am reminded of His return and as I look up at it, I usually meditate with myself, "Perhaps He may be in this one."

Another prophecy of His return is found in the first chapter of Acts. Hear it:

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." — Acts 1:8-11.

In this we are told that our business as Christians is to bear witness for Him until He comes. We are to be His witnesses unto all the earth until He returns. Having declared that this was the mission of Christians, Christ was then received up out of their sight into the clouds. Yet, scarcely had He gone into the skies until the angels of God brought a message to the wondering disciples that Christ was coming back. They even went so far as to say, "This same Jesus . . . shall so come." You will notice that they referred to Him as this "same Jesus." In other words, the same Jesus who had walked on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, and who had walked in the waves of the Sea of Galilee. The same Jesus who had made the deaf to hear, the blind to see, the lame to walk; the same Jesus who had cleansed the lepers, and who had raised the dead, the same Jesus who had died for their sins, and who had been raised from the dead — this same Jesus who had now ascended into the skies is thus some day promised to return. What a joy it is to know that while the child of God is unable to cope with the problems of this world, still he has the assurance that Christ is coming.

On the night before His arrest, Jesus announced His death to His disciples, and then in order to bring comfort to them in view of their grief over His betrayal and death, He said:

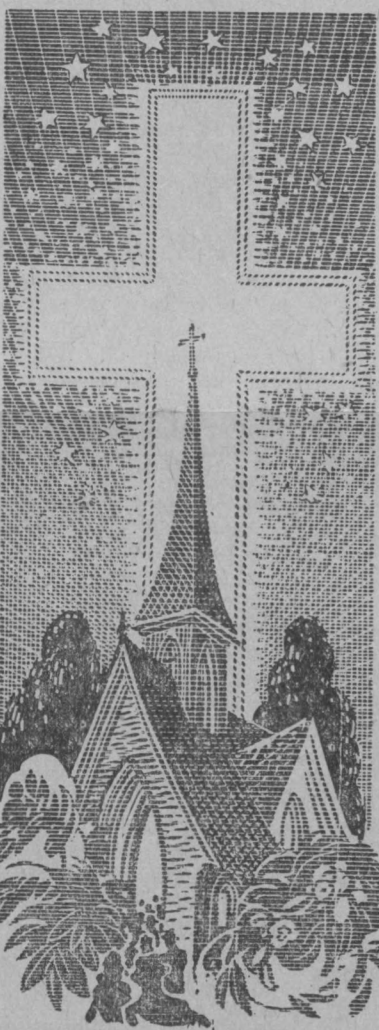
"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." — John 14:1-3.

In this is a positive declaration that Jesus was going into the skies to prepare a place for His disciples, and in the same breath whereby He told of His going away, He also gave the promise as to His return. Thus the promise of His return is just as positive as the statement of His going. We know that He did go away, and thus we are as-

sured that some day He will come again to receive His own unto Himself.

When Paul wrote to the Christians at Thessalonica who were troubled over the death of their loved ones, he comforted them with these words:

"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." — I Thess. 4:13-17.



In this is a promise that some day the trumpet of God is going to sound. It has been a long time since that trumpet sounded, for its last time on this earth. At the time when God was giving His law unto the children of Israel, that trumpet sounded for its last time upon human ears. When its echo died away, that unearthly sound has never since been heard, and will not be heard until the Lord Jesus comes again. Then it is that the child of God is going to be caught up. What difference does it make if all the industries of the nation are tied up with strikes? What difference does it make if John L. Lewis does lead his miners out of the pits on an average of once a year paralyzing the industries of the nation. What difference does it make if our churches are but spiritual refrigerators? What difference does it make if difficulties are confronting the UNO and war is looming between Great Britain and Russia. I say that all

these things mean but little — in fact, they mean nothing to the true child of God. He has the assurance that he is going to be "caught up." He knows that Jesus is coming, and his hope is not in the things of this world but in the return of his Lord.

II
WHEN JESUS COMES, ALL SLEEPING SAINTS SHALL BE RAISED. Though many have died and departed from this life when the Lord Jesus comes there will be a resurrection of those who have received Him as Saviour and Lord while living. Listen:

"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first." — I Thes. 4:16.

"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them which were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand year." — Rev. 20:4-6.

When the Lord Jesus raised Lazarus from the grave, He called him by name so that no others would arise. So it will be when He calls the righteous. Otherwise all dead would come forth from the grave unless Jesus were to call His own. What a joy it is to know that some day His own are thus to be called and that all of His sleeping saints will be raised. Go yonder tomorrow to the cemetery and stand beside the graves of your loved ones. Look down upon the grave of that babe that was taken from your home. Look upon the grave of that old gray-haired grand-sire — that father or mother who meant so much to you. Look at the grave of each of these loved ones and then rejoice that even death shall be defeated and that the grave shall be cheated out of that body of your loved one, for when Jesus comes, it is our hope based with assurance on His Word that all the sleeping saints shall be raised.

III
WHEN JESUS COMES ALL LIVING BELIEVERS ARE GOING TO BE TRANSLATED. Again and again God's Word tells us that those Christians who are alive when Jesus comes shall be caught up and translated from this earth to heaven. Listen:

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." — I Thess. 4:17.

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And who so ever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." — John 1:25,26.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." — I Cor. 15:51-53.

In the Old Testament two in-

dividuals were translated without ever seeing death. These were Enoch and Elijah. Neither of them ever died. They were caught up to be with the Lord apart from death, and these two represent the experience of each believer, for all living believers will be caught up or translated in like manner as were Enoch and Elijah.

IV
FURTHERMORE, WHEN JESUS COMES EVERY BELIEVER WILL BE TRANSFORMED. No longer will we have these old bodies which are subject to the ills of this world and to the difficulties, disappointments and heartaches of this life. Then each believer will be entirely changed or made new. Listen:

"For our citizenship is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." — Phil. 3:20,21.

"As we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." — I Cor. 15:49.

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the first-born among many brethren." — Rom. 8:29.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." — I John 3:2.

What a joy it will be to get rid of our fleshly natures. How blessed it will be to be not only translated out of this life, but transformed so that we may enjoy the life of heaven. Surely then the second coming is the hope of the believer.

In view of these facts, I ask you if you are ready for His coming. I do not mean to say that I know when He is coming. I do not know the hour, the day, the month, nor even the year of His return. In fact, no one knows this. Listen:

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him, and in an hour that he is not aware of." — Matt. 24:36,50.

"But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." — 2 Peter 3:10.

I do not know when He is coming, yet I do know that He is coming. If you are a Christian and if you have been genuinely redeemed by His blood, I ask you, "Are you ready for His coming?" Would you be ashamed if His coming were to take place now, or are you living each day in such a way that you would welcome His return?

Of course, the unsaved man is not ready for His return, but rather, stands hopeless before God even at this very hour. The only way that you can be ready is to have your sins covered with His own precious blood. Listen:

"And the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." — 1 John 1:7.

In the light of this, may you receive Him now and be washed in His blood and be ready when Jesus comes.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

(Continued from page two)

Cor. 6:19. It is his duty to seek grace daily from God that he may keep from grieving the Spirit. Eph. 4:30, "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

May the Lord, the Spirit, graciously add His blessing to what has been written, and cause each reader to "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good." I Thes. 5:21.



DOES THE BIBLE TEACH APOSTASY?

(Continued from page one)

4:1-3; 2 Peter 2:11; Phil. 3:18). Denial of the full deity of Christ is one of the tenets of Modernism today while the doctrine of the blood atonement is scoffed at in the modern theological seminary. Then there are different denominations that deny the deity of Christ, such as the Unitarians, Universalists, Jehovah's (false) Witnesses, which deny Christ's eternal existence. Likewise Mormonism holds that Christ was a created being. Christian Science teaches that Jesus never came in the flesh at all.

Maintaining a form of religion, without the power of God. (2 Tim. 3:5).

There shall continue to be plenty of religious institutions, and plenty of "activity" but it will be mere religious formality.

The teachers of apostate religion shall be corrupt. Note their characteristics:

- (1) Like Baalam—hireling prophets. (2 Peter 2:15). Willing to preach anything for a price.
- (2) They make a big show of words. (v. 18).
- (3) They appeal through the flesh. (v. 18). Like the religious showmen who come to Ashland with all sorts of stunts and tricks and gadgets. Some with "healing" and some with amusement features. Some even with sleight of hand and magic.
- (4) They go the way of Cain. (Jude 11). That means, they resort to something other than blood atonement as Cain did.
- (5) They have great regard to the position men occupy. (Jude

16). For a good description of this "falling away" read 2 Timothy 3:1-8.

SIGNS THAT CHURCHES HAVE GOTTEN AWAY FROM THE LORD AND THE BOOK

The Perversion of Christ's Plan of Organization. Just in recent years the whole scheme of organization has been changed from simplicity to complexity. What Scripture warrant is there for all this? None. Churches today are bled to death with parasites in the form of little clubs, and societies.

The perversion of Christ's mission for his Church. Instead of a religious institution, dealing with spiritual things, the modern church is a social center; an amusement agency; an entertainment bureau. The flesh and the material is served rather than the spiritual.

Powerlessness. There is little sign of divine power manifested in connection with the modern church. Few rank sinners converted. Church membership is largely recruited from the "juniors." Few miraculous answers to prayer are noted, for auxiliary life has crowded out prayer life.

Lack of Appeal to the Public. Churches are characterized by a mere handful in attendance, while the crowds go to the show or somewhere else. Reason: They resort to the world's ways with their musical "programs," pageants, and unscriptural preachments. Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men (all kinds of men) unto me."



EVERY MAN'S EPITAH

(Continued from page one)

to be recorded of him:

He slept 25 years.

The remainder of the days of his pilgrimage were apportioned as follows:

He spent 3 years and 6 months in eating and drinking.

Three years in dressing and undressing.

Two years and six months in going to and from work.

Three years and nine months in study.

Ten years and three months in amusing himself.

The remaining 22 years of his life he worked, thereby earning

the wherewithal to do all the above things. Finally, he died.

After reviewing this answer by this materialistic minded person it seems that life is vain and empty. Paul gave the real meaning of life in Phil. 1:21 when he said, "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."—Copied.



MARRIAGE, DIVORCE

(Continued from page one)

cessive polygamy in America and Britain. This sounds shocking to many Americans, but it is no more shocking than was the "six-weeks' divorce - and - remarriage" arrangement a few years ago. Today, easy divorce laws are widely in force and taken advantage of by millions of Americans on a wholesale scale.

The agitation for the legalizing of polygamy will gain popularity in the post-war world because of the large surplus of women. The noted British philosopher, C. E. M. Joad, openly champions it. "Husband-sharing" is bound to be practiced in one way or another, and it might as well be openly, he argues.

Both Germany and Russia have lost millions of young men in the war. In the post-war set-up, the women will outnumber the men on the basis of several to one.

Thousands of American boys are bringing British and Australian wives home with them, despite the fact that women already outnumber men in America. For a long time after the war, several millions of American troops will be on "police duty" overseas. Hundreds of thousands will remain beneath foreign soil. When all factors are considered, it seems likely that young women will outnumber men in America in the ratio of about 2 to 1 in the post-war years.

Under the system of "husband-sharing," more and more children are being born out of wedlock. Some of our states have laws prohibiting the making of distinctions between "legitimate" and "illegitimate" births. Hence, there is no accurate record kept. However, students of the subject have supplied this information, "In 1900, there was approximately 1 illegitimate birth for every 90 legitimate ones. In 1938, there was 1 birth outside wedlock for every 14 inside. Today, if we make allowance for camouflage and forgeries in birth certificates, a conservative estimate would be that there is one illegitimate birth for every 5 that are legitimate."

The simple fact is that polygamy is being practiced today, just as it was in the days of Noah. It may be called "illegal," but it goes on just the same.

The scriptures do not tell us if the drinking in Noah's time was "legal" or "bootleg." We presume it was legal, but liquor is just as intoxicating whether it is legal or illegal. A drinking den produces drunkards on the same scale whether it is called a "cocktail lounge" or a saloon, or a "speakeasy."

We presume that the polygamy practiced in Noah's time was "legal;" but what goes on today is the same thing, regardless of its status legally.

God's way for man, as set forth in the Scriptures, is one in which "there is no provision for the lusts of the flesh."

The way of the antediluvians, and of the "moderns," is one in which every provision is made for the fulfillments of the lusts of the flesh. Our present system of "free - and - easy" divorce permits a somewhat modified form of polygamy. There are

young men in Washington and Hollywood who have half-a-dozen families spread out over the nation, who have "legal children" by half-a-dozen women whom they married and divorced.

In my book on the return of polygamy as prophesied in the Scriptures, I give the instance of a somewhat well-known Washington newspaper reporter. He was drafted into the army and sent away to training camp. Sometime later, his wife received a special delivery letter, which directed her to rush to Reno for a divorce. He was about to be a father and wanted to marry the girl before the baby was born.

She did as directed and he married the girl shortly before his child was born.

A few months later, he was sent to England, where he became involved with another girl.

In one of our "very broad-minded" magazines, he discussed his predicament: "What was I to do? Rush my second wife to Reno for another divorce? I don't know that she could have made it fast enough—and, anyway, it would have been very expensive to go through all that again, so soon."

"I don't like to leave my unborn babe without a name. But there seems no way out. Polygamy is the only answer, but unfortunately it is not legal in either England or America."

The demand for polygamy will come from the women themselves, according to Isaiah 4:1, "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach."

Reproach for what? Unwed motherhood, of course.

These women live their own lives in the world; they make their own living. They do not want a man to provide for them. All they want is a name for their children.

They do not give up their lives of wickedness in the world. They want to keep their "sex freedom" and "independence." But they do desire a name for their offspring.

Lupe Velez was the "Mexican bombshell" of the silver screen. Her life was one of riotous revelry. The wild parties which she threw were notorious even in Hollywood. She went from love-affair to love-affair. Then one day she committed suicide. Notes left behind told the whole story; she was an expectant mother. She begged the father to marry her. He had refused. Now she could not bear the "reproach," so she took poison.

Women may become so shameless that they openly and brazenly practice "sex freedom." But no woman ever, in her right mind, become so "modern" and "sophisticated" as not to desire a name for her baby.

The significant thing, though, is this: the demand for polygamy is motivated by a desire to cover-up and legalize the fruits of "sex freedom." We already have the reality of polygamy. All that remains, for the complete fulfillment of prophecy, is for it to be legalized.

Unrestrained sex activity, as it was in the days of Noah, is the characteristic of our times. Legal forms mean little nowadays, when they interfere with the free expression of lust. Most states still have laws against adultery, but they are enforced even less frequently than those against abortion. Laws are still on the books providing that man shall not have more than one mate. But philandering millions know how to get around them. A man may be

sent to jail if he marries a mate before divorcing the old one. But nothing happens to him if he has children by another woman while married to a different woman!

Not long ago, newspapers were filled with accounts of an American soldier who became the father of quadruplets by an unmarried British girl. The soldier had a wife in Pennsylvania. He claimed himself to be "proud," "very proud" of his adulterous act which brought four innocent children into the world under the stigma of illegitimacy.

His American wife refused to give him a divorce. Editors and writers bitterly denounced her "narrow-minded," "stubborn," "unsportsmanlike." He was picked up and paraded as some sort of "hero."

The Army did not punish him in any manner whatsoever. He had broken a plate glass window in a British saloon, he would have been punished. But adultery, seduction of a British girl, bringing of illegitimate children into the world—none of these things is punished in "the new age of freedom."

In the granting of "allotment" out of the federal treasury, distinction is made between legitimate and illegitimate children.

Newspaper and magazine photographers had a "field day" with the first baby was flown across the Atlantic Ocean in an airplane. The baby was the illegitimate child of an American soldier stationed in Europe, who was sending the offspring of his sin to his parents in the United States! The whole disgraceful affair was glorified and glamorized by the press. There were reports that he would receive a post-war movie contract from Hollywood.

This illegitimate father, who is a better, more accurate descriptive phrase than illegitimate child, together with the illegitimate father of the quadruplets, said to have received more publicity than any of the great heroes such as Collin Kelly, "Commando" Kelly.

When I studied law, the first thing I learned about our legal code is that it is based upon the Mosaic law of the Bible. The law of God punishes sex relations outside marriage with the severity that it punishes murder. Christian civilization depends on the rigorous repression of the impurity, even more than it does the suppression of other crimes such as robbery and theft.

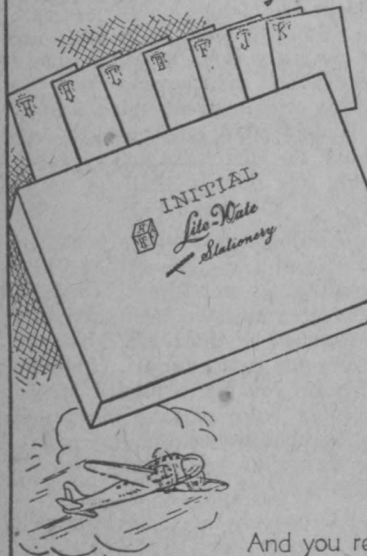
The law of America still provides long prison terms for crimes of adultery, fornication and abortion. But the law is a dead-letter. It is ignored and scoffed at.

The law of God was written on the hearts of men, even before it was written on tablets of stone and handed down to Moses. Antediluvians knew what that law was. They knew it condemned the sinful practices in which they were freely engaged. But they ignored it and scoffed at it, as they do their pleasure-mad way, eating, drinking, and sexualizing.

They knew their sex sins were contrary to the commandments of God. But they erected a standard of their own by which they were declared to be "legal" and "permissible."

So it is today: modern man has a woman lives by what is called "the New Morality." The morality is really the age-old morality of the days of Noah—Sodom. It directly contradicts the law of God and man. But it is the "vogue," the "going thing" of our day—just as it was of the ancient day.

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